

Squatter Sovereign.

"The South, and her Institutions."

STRINGFELLOW & KENNEDY, Editors.

ATLANTIC, KANSAS TERR.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1856.

The Best Advertising Medium in the Upper Country. Circulation Over Two Thousand!!

All agents for the Squatter Sovereign who may have monies in their possession for this office will confer a favor on us by forwarding the same. We wish to send for more paper and ink by the first boat, and it requires money to obtain such articles.

Pay Up! Pay Up!

Our first volume is drawing to a close, and there are yet many of our subscribers on the delinquent list. We hope all who may see this article will set down immediately and remit us the small amount due. If they do not do so before it escapes their memory, it may be six months before they will think of it again. Perhaps by that time we may starve for want of bread. We call upon them as Christians, as Americans, as pro-slavery men, as honest men, to pay us our just dues. We will see how many refuse to respond to this pathetic appeal.

To Subscribers.

Our first volume will be out in five weeks from this day. Those who wish to continue their paper will please remit the subscription in advance as we are determined to send to no one who does not comply with the above terms. The fact of it is we are not able to furnish papers on a credit. The exceedingly high prices charged for printing materials, makes it necessary for persons with a limited capital to do a cash business.

We hope our pro-slavery friends in Missouri and other Southern States, will lend us a helping hand, and strive to extend our circulation. It is perhaps the best method that can be adopted to induce emigrants to come to this Territory, to circulate papers containing fair and true statements of the existing state of affairs in the country. We shall expect our present patrons to continue as subscribers, and induce as many of their neighbors to follow the example as possible.

President's Message.

The President commences by giving a history of Central American affairs in particular. He also refers to the recent troubles in Kansas, and says her people must be protected in the exercise of their rights and without interference on the part of the people of other States, and comments the subject to the early attention of Congress. He eulogizes popular sovereignty, gives a history of the formation of the Union, and expatiates on State rights, with particular reference to slavery and the fugitive-slave law.

The President regards the agitation of slavery as dangerous to the durability of the Union, and regrets to see the States disregard their constitutional obligations, and refuse to obey the laws of Congress.

He denies that the South has obtained advantages over the North in the Federal government, and proceeds to refer to the ordinance of 1787 and the acquisition of Louisiana, and to illustrate the balance of power between freedom and slavery.

He comes down to the annexation of Texas, the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, and argues that the South has got no more than belongs to her.

He gives an elaborate defence of the principles of the Nebraska bill, and indignantly denies that it is a breach of faith.

The President refers to grave questions pending with some foreign powers, the most important of which is that with Great Britain, arising out of the Nicaragua question.

It was an understanding with the United States, in making the treaty, that all the present States of the former Central American Republic would thenceforth enjoy complete independence.

Also that contracting parties engaged equally, and to some extent for the present, and future, that if either of them had any claim or right in Central America, such claim was unreservedly relinquished by the stipulations of the convention, and no dominion thereafter would be exercised in any part of Central America by Great Britain or the United States.

This government consented to these restrictions in regard to a region of country wherein we had peculiar and specific interests only upon the conviction that like restrictions were in some sense obligatory on Great Britain.

But for this understanding, the treaty would never have been concluded by us. Great Britain so construes the convention as to maintain unchanged all her previous pretensions over the Mosquito coast.

These pretensions are founded on the assumption of political relations between Great Britain and the remnants of Indians on that coast, entered into at a time when the whole country was a colonial possession of Spain.

It cannot be successfully controverted that by the public law of both Europe and America, no possible act of such Indians, or of their predecessors, could confer on Great Britain any political rights. It however became apparent that Great Britain still continued in exercise of large authority in all parts of Central America, commonly called the Mosquito coast, covering the entire length of Nicaragua, and part of Costa Rica. This act of Great Britain being contrary to the States of Central America, as understood by this government, have been made the subject of negotiation through the American Minister at London.

Great Britain has by repeated and successive treaties renounced all pretensions of her own, and recognized the full and sovereign rights of Spain in most unequivocal terms. Great Britain now re-asserts her right to this extent of the Gulf coast on the Eastern coast of Nicaragua.

The interference of Great Britain, though exerted once in the form of military occupation of the port of San Juan del Norte, now presents a claim of right of protection over the Mosquito Indians.

Of the international difficulty in regard to the late recruiting by Great Britain, he says the traditional policy of the United States is not to interfere with belligerents. Such being the public rights of the United States, no solicitude was felt until Parliament passed an act to provide for the enlistment of a foreign legion. It was a matter of surprise, therefore, to find persons engaged in the United States in this business.

After stating that recruiting stations had been established in the United States by the complicity of British military and civil officers, he says these considerations and the fact that the cause of complaint was not a mere casual occurrence, but a deliberate design conducted by responsible public functionaries, impelled me to present the case to the British government. The subject is still under discussion, the result of which will be communicated in due time.

The ordinary steps were immediately taken to arrest and punish the parties concerned. The matter acquires additional importance, by a disclosure of the fact that these enlistments were prosecuted upon a plan devised by official authority.

Gov. Shannon and the Herald of Freedom.

We hope no pro-slavery man will be led to think that Gov. Shannon is any other than an honest man, who desires to do his whole duty, because Brown, of the Herald of Freedom, speaks well of him in his last issue. Col. Benton once said, "if ever you hear a whig praise me, set it down that I have turned d—n rascal," and although it is true that the whigs—or some of the so-called whigs—have of late years been praising him, and every body has come to the conclusion that the Colonel said they ought to come to, upon the happening of the contingency aforesaid, and although, as a general rule, the good and true men are not spoken well of by the mean and the traitorous, yet it sometimes happens that when these low, mean, despicable scoundrels find that a man is incorruptible, they will endeavor to blast his character by attaching—or trying to attach—themselves to him, that he may be contaminated by their filth, knowing that the world will judge him by Benton's rule. The miserable catfish are trying to blast the reputation of Gov. Shannon by making it appear that he is in hand in glove with such wretched traitors as Lane, Brown, Robinson, and others. We can say, in good faith, to pro-slavery men every where, that Gov. Shannon made no bargain with them by which they were allowed to disregard the enactments of the Legislature; on the contrary, the treaty, as it is called, on its face calls for obedience to the laws, and specifies one offence for resisting the sheriff, an officer of the Territory; and the whole thing is plain, if honest men honestly not Jesuitically construe it, and what is more to the purpose, they obey these laws.

We are not at all sure that the treaty as it is called, was what was actually agreed upon. The only evidence is that the free-soilers say so. Usually, that fact would satisfy us it was a forgery only it bears upon its face evidence of its genuineness. In the first place, it is an instrument which is perfectly plain, and should bear but one construction. It disclaims for the people of Lawrence any connection with the rescue of Branson, and further stated that if any of them had been engaged in it, they would aid in the execution of legal process against them. They further disclaim the knowledge of any organization to resist the laws, that they have not and do not intend to resist any legal process, whatever, but pledge themselves to aid in the execution of the laws, but do not express any opinion of the enactments of the Legislature. Could any one ask more? And yet it affords them some hole to creep out at, and they avail themselves of it. They say they do not recognize the acts of the Legislature as laws. Gov. Shannon would have disgraced us indeed if he had made any notes or comments explaining what he meant by law. He, of course, could mean but one thing. Again, he disclaims calling for forces outside the Territory, or intending to use any but the forces of the Territory. This was all right. (By the way, why were they so anxious not to let

any more of the troops—the Missourians as they called them—be turned loose upon them, in case of a fight, than could be helped if they could thrust them so easy? The Governor never did call on any one but the citizens of the Territory, and there was no need of any others. Fifty men with cowhides would have been enough to have "conquered a peace." Again, they refused to give their opinion of the "enactments of the Territorial Legislature." That is a rich idea, truly. Twelve hundred men ordered out, in winter, to compel an opinion from the traitorous negro thieves of Lawrence, in relation to the acts of the Legislature.

Now, we ask, what more could have been done? We were ordered out by the Governor to assist the sheriff in executing legal process. The Sheriff and the Governor told us they had no further use for us, that the laws would now be executed, and as good men we obeyed.

The rest of the so-called "treaty" amounts to nothing. The prisoners were no longer needed or desired after order was restored; and, as to being paid for the hay and corn used for forage, the next Legislature will make an appropriation for that, particularly as many of our own friends had to suffer in the same way—though as a general thing we desired to buy of the abolitionists, knowing that thereby we would "tell" them to the Territorial Legislature for relief. We must have an extra session for the special purpose of attending to the cries of the corn and hay robbed citizens of Douglas.

Governor Shannon, we learn, has gone to Washington, how long to be absent we know not; but in his absence Secretary Woodson is Governor, and we hope he will not shrink from responsibility, but call the Legislature together in time to provide for the Lawrence Legislature, which is to assemble in March. No time should be lost. The condition of our affairs absolutely requires prompt action on the part of our Governor and the Legislature.

Pre-Emptions in Kansas.

The pre-emption law was passed for the benefit of those who, in good faith, would settle upon and improve the public lands before they were brought into market, and we would be glad to see all who are honestly entitled to the benefits of the law avail themselves of it, and by that means our Territory would be rapidly improved, and in a short time we should not be dependent upon our neighbors in Missouri for our bread and meat. But in riding over the Territory, and perhaps as much in our own county, and around the town of Atchison as elsewhere, it will be found that almost every quarter section considered valuable, has a claimant but not a settler in good faith as was intended by the law. This is neither fair, just, or right, and if longer countenanced must work very injuriously, and prevent the country from settling. Persons are daily coming into our county now looking for claims to make farms upon, and they say that they cannot find good claims near our town, that all are claimed by some one, but that all the improvements made upon most of them are either a pole foundation or a penaboth from three to six feet high, apparently made six or twelve months since. The plea of such claims being recognized as valid is nonsense, and a gross fraud upon the Government, and those who are willing to settle the country and make farms.

Persons need not expect to live in towns and hold pre-emptions in the country; neither can people live in Missouri, or elsewhere, and hold pre-emptions in this Territory.

We call attention to these matters just now, because we know that in a short time there will be a large emigration here of persons who intend to make their homes among us, and those persons who have marked claims, or made foundations, or pigpens upon them—never intending to settle upon them—but with the view of keeping others off them until they become valuable and then selling them at high prices to those who are willing to settle in the country, will find that no such outrages will be tolerated. Men who will not live on claims, are not ethically entitled to them, and ought not to be permitted to speculate upon them, and make honest settlers pay for nothing. If such a system is tolerated, our country will not be settled for years to come; and we shall hereafter advise those who come among us to settle, to go out into the country, and whenever they find a good quarter, without a bona fide settler upon it, to pitch in and go to work.

GEN. ATCHISON.—Brown, of the Herald of Freedom, says that "if ever Gen. Atchison is found in this Territory with arms in his hands, they (the abolitionists) will have him shot." We will inform the valiant editor, that Gen. A. intends moving to this country in a few weeks, and whenever the traitors of Douglas county, or any other portion of the Territory, refuse obedience to the laws of the Kansas Legislature, enacted at Shawnee Manual Labor School last summer, and a posse is called out to aid the sheriff, Gen. Atchison will be found on the ground "with arms in hand," and if you want his scalp you can have an opportunity of taking it, provided your courage does not evaporate as it did before when the militia was called out.

The Scientific American is of the opinion that railroad trains will yet be running at the rate of one hundred miles per hour.

Extra Session of the Legislature.

Last week we called the attention of the Executive to the importance of calling the Legislature together at an early day, that measures might be taken to prevent a general collision between the Free State traitors and the proper authorities of the Territory. In addition to the reasons then given, we will further state, that there are several laws of a general character the importance of which all will admit. There was no act passed for the disposition of the school lands, except such as had settlers on them, hence a very small fund only can be raised for the support of common schools. No provision of a general nature was enacted by which the counties can borrow money for the erection of suitable county buildings. Each of these are matters of pressing necessity, and with the other important matters referred to should determine the immediate necessity for the assembling of the Legislature. All of these things can be disposed of in a three or four days' session, and unless attended to before the 30th of March—at which time the term of the members of the House of Representatives expires—cannot be attended to, however urgent the occasion, after the election in October next, as between the 30th of March and the October election, there will be no House of Representatives that could be called to meet. We hope our friends will urge this thing on the Governor.

War! War!!

It seems now to be certain that we shall have to give the abolitionists at least one good thrashing before political matters are settled in this Territory. To do so we must have arms; we have the men. I propose to raise funds to furnish Col's revolvers and other arms for those who are without them. I propose to do so without taxing any one but myself. I will sell some shares of town stock in the Territory, (as given below,) and bind myself to invest all the money in the above articles, which shall be loaned to such soldiers as are unable to purchase them, and shall remain for such use for the space of one or two years. The arms to be used by the volunteers and militia of Atchison county when in service.

The stock I propose to sell will be sold at a fair valuation, such as will enable the purchaser to get a good per centage on the investment. I feel assured that the wealthy friends of our cause, in Western Missouri, will be glad of the opportunity to invest. "Don't all speak at once." The shares are—

Two shares in Leocompton, the capital of the Territory.

One in Delaware, county-seat of Leavenworth.

Two in Calhoun, county-seat of Calhoun.

One in Nemaha City, mouth of Nemaha river.

JOHN H. STRINGFELLOW.

Address the subscriber, or P. T. Abell, or Samuel Dixon, Atchison, K. T.

Exchanges please copy.

The Ball at Doniphan.

On the 8th of January last, we, in company with other citizens of this place, visited our neighboring city of Doniphan, for the purpose of attending the ball then and there given. On our arrival, we found a large number of young ladies—some of them exceedingly pretty—already engaged in "tripping the light fantastic toe" to the music of an excellent cotton band from St. Joseph. Through the courtesy of the gentlemanly managers we were enabled to form many pleasant acquaintances, thereby making our time pass swiftly and pleasantly. We danced all night and at broad daylight we were invited to the residence of Mr. John W. Forman where we found excellent accommodations. We are requested in behalf of the Atchison delegation to tender to Mr. Forman and his estimable lady their heartfelt thanks for the courteous manner in which they were entertained while under their roof. Taking it altogether, we do not remember of attending a more pleasant party in the upper country. The citizens of Doniphan deserve credit for the manner in which they conduct such affairs, and the town itself has just cause to boast of the beauty of its young ladies.

Our readers are referred to the law card of A. G. Otis, Esq., published in another column. Mr. Otis was formerly from Louisville, Ky., where he was favored with an extensive practice, but feeling a great interest in the affairs of Kansas and the character of the institutions which she should adopt, he was induced to take up his abode with us. He comes well recommended, and we are confident he will receive that patronage which his eminent qualifications as a lawyer entitles him to.

At a recent session of the County Court of Atchison county, Mr. J. T. Herford was appointed County Assessor, Harry Kuhn County Surveyor, and A. E. Mayhew, Esq., a Justice of the Peace for Shannon township. All of the above are creditable appointments.

There was splendid work at the late battle of Kays. One man (a Turk) who shot down a Russian, seeing the blood spouting out, rushed forward, caught the blood in his two hands, and drank it. He then fastened on to the body with his teeth, shook it like a dog, and bit pieces out of it. This was war.

Atchison—Its Progress and Future.

It is now only a little over one year since the first beginnings of Atchison were made. The progress since then has been gratifying, and shows that when the original projectors of this town pitched upon the crowning turn of this great bend in the river, westward, as the point in navigation to which the business of northern and western Kansas would draw, their judgment was good.

No town in the territory has such healthy growth and business as ours. Our business is large and growing; it belongs to us by natural position, and will grow upon us as our back country fills up. In 1855, nine large trains fitted out here, and nearly six thousand persons landed at this point from steamers, to go to Utah and other back countries.

Between eighteen and nineteen hundred tons of freight, from boats, has been landed here—about one-fourth of this for our own citizens; the remaining three-fourths for inland Kansas traders, Fort Laramie, Salt Lake, &c.

Ready-made houses, and lumber, shingles, etc., in great quantities, have come to swell our business—all of which are put up, or sold, not any being now for sale.

Of the several mercantile houses, every one is doing well. We have goods sold the same day in this town to go north and west to Wolf river and the Nemaha; south and west to the very banks of the Kansas river, and westward as far as the remote Forts Riley and Laramie. In the spring and summer we sell largely to Salt Lake.

Look at a good map of Kansas, and see what a vast empire will be tributary to Atchison. Only now, with a sparse territorial population, see what we are doing. Give time to improve and fill up Kansas, and this place will have a trade of many millions annually. Our coal fields—rich hemp lands of the Stranger creek, Grasshopper, Black Vermilion, Wolf and the more distant Kansas and Blue rivers, placed around us like the tips of an open fan—the rich lands in view on our smaller streams—our noble river bend, pushing us a day's travel further into the territory—all point to this as a place made by nature for a mart of busy men.

We intended more statistics but will give them hereafter, for want of space now. We will show you, reader, where to come if you come to Kansas. If you want a farm, come here—we will show you the best of land, with timber, water, and healthy location. If you are wealthy, come; your poorer neighbors, under our wise interest law, can borrow your capital, and pay you legally its worth to them and you. If you have slaves, come; they hire their labor its worth more to you here than even in Missouri; they are perfectly safe here, you need have no fears. If you are poor, come; we want all—everybody, poor and rich, so they are only good citizens, good men, to such we say come in welcome.

If you are a mechanic, this is the place for you. More steam mills are wanted badly; there is a fortune in them. We want more wagon-makers, innkeepers, potteries, coopers, and a host of other trades. Ten times more wagon and plow work is wanted, than we now have.

FLORIDA DEMOCRACY.—At a meeting of the Democratic members of the Legislature of Florida, the second Wednesday in April next was appointed for the nomination of delegates to the Democratic National Convention. These delegates will be instructed to insist upon the adoption of a platform of principles as the basis of a national organization, prior to the nomination of candidates, and that said platform shall, among other things, include, in substance, the following propositions:

1. The recognition and adoption of the principles established in the Kansas-Nebraska act, and their application to the admission of new States.

2. That neither the Missouri Compromise nor any other anti-slavery restriction shall hereafter be extended over any territory of the United States.

3. The prompt and faithful execution of the fugitive-slave law, and its permanent continuance upon the statute books.

If these propositions shall not, in substance, be incorporated in the platform adopted by the Convention, the delegates from Florida will be instructed to withdraw.

SHARPE'S RIFLES AND THE ABOLITIONISTS.—Brown, of the Herald of Freedom, is in a perfect fever about Sharpe's rifles. He and his friends seem adverse to getting into close quarters—they like to fight at a thousand yards. And it seems that their patron saint, Thayer, commiserating their fears, is making them rifles to shoot a mile. We would recommend them to get some of the kind that will shoot round a corner.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.—We have read this able document, and wish we could publish it, but our columns are too small, and we are assured that most of our readers will have read it before we could get it out.

We will say this much, however, we endorse the message entire. The President has taken the true State rights ground, and does the Southern justice. He has proven himself a very able and patriotic statesman. The message is the best State paper we have read for years. "Frank Pierce" will do as President for us. To our readers we say, if you have not the message, get it and read it.

The Steamer Polar Star.

We are pleased to see, from a card published in another column, that this favorite boat is again to take her place in the packet trade between St. Joseph and St. Louis on the opening of navigation. The Polar Star is well known on the Missouri river. She has acquired a reputation for speed and regularity that other boats have cause to envy. Her officers, Capt. Dix and Cleik Blossom, are men of strict integrity and business habits, and as officers they cannot be excelled. From a long acquaintance with both of the above named gentlemen, we are qualified to judge of their merits, and do not hesitate to commend them to the business and traveling public.

The Polar Star has undergone thorough repairs, and is perhaps the most comfortable and commodious packet in the trade. She has been proscribed by the abolitionists of this Territory and the East, and for this reason has double claims to the patronage of the Southern people. We must see that she is none the loser by being denounced by the negro-loving portion of the community.

More Bloodshed in Kansas.

A telegraphic dispatch from Weston to the Independence Occidental Messenger states that a skirmish took place on the night of the 17th instant, at Easton, K. T., between the abolitionists and pro-slavery men—the former making the attack—in which one pro-slavery man named Cook was killed, and several wounded. Several abolitionists killed and wounded.

A company of abolitionists from Lawrence, commanded by one Brown, was on the ground, and was said to be urging them to other acts of violence. It is supposed the difficulty grew out of the free-soil election of the 15th instant.

If the war now raging is not brought to a close, there will be no paper issued from this office next week, as editors, journeymen and all shouldered their muskets in defence of law and order—Squatter Sovereign.

We are glad to learn that Stringfellow & Co. at last promise to take their stand in defence of law and order. Ever since the appearance of the first number of that paper they have countenanced and encouraged acts of violence, and speered at the tardy progress of the law. Wherever there existed a spark of contention, they fanned it into a flame until they have covered themselves with infamy, endangered the peace and property of their neighbors, and cast upon the institutions of Missouri an undeserved obloquy. Finding their hypocritical zeal becoming unpopular, they now make a boast of defending the laws they ridiculed.

The above is from the Cape Girardeau Eagle (Know-Nothing,) and like every other thing else to be found in the Know-Nothing papers of Missouri is a foul slander upon us. There is not a press in Missouri, Democrat or Whig, that ever made or would make such a charge. The Abolition and Know-Nothing presses are filled with such slanders. We had no courts and no law in this Territory till the Legislature met, of which the senior editor of this paper was speaker. He endorses every law passed by the Legislature, and will go as far to enforce them for every violation as he who goes farthest. We would warn the people of Missouri, the pro-slavery portion of them, to beware of these Know-Nothing organs. "Straws show which way the wind blows."

The Message.

President Pierce's able message is duly appreciated by the entire press of the South. We make the following extracts from the Columbia Statesman, a violent Whig and Know-Nothing organ. It is much better than we could have possibly expected of Switzer:

"President Pierce is no favorite of ours. We opposed his election, and regard his administration as a failure. We believe he has attempted to 'curry favor' with all factions in the Union, and enjoys the confidence of none. He has appointed abolitionists, free-soilers and fire-eaters to office, even to posit in his cabinet. Nevertheless, we take pleasure in saying this message is the crowning glory of his life. It is an able State paper, and, because of the soundness of its views and conservative tone, will cover a multitude of the sins of its author.

The President's views in regard to Central America and the extraordinary diplomacy of Great Britain are highly commendable. He makes a complete exposure of the disreputable sophistry by which Great Britain attempts to sustain her pretensions to occupancy and colonization of the Mosquito coast.

The slavery feature of the message will attract universal attention. On this subject he administers the fanatics and agitators North and South—the enemies of the Union and domestic tranquility—a scathing rebuke. We hope it will effect them for good, by recalling them from the forbidden paths of sectional strife to the peaceful walks of loyalty and patriotism. We warmly commend this chapter of the message to the consideration of the country. It is a noble vindication of the rights of the people—a glowing tribute to the priceless value of the American Union.

Kossuth has written a letter to the New York Times, in the course of which he makes this statement: "I have positive information that Louis Napoleon Bonaparte had determined imperatively to insist on the expulsion of political refugees from England. He is perfectly conscious of the advantages of his position, and knows that the British Government is so much in fear of him, that they could not dare to refuse him anything."

Texas has a school fund of over two million dollars.

From the Platte Argus.

Gen. Atchison no Longer a Candidate.

We are authorized to announce to the people of Missouri, that the Hon. D. R. Atchison is no longer before them in connection with the position as a candidate for United States Senator or any other office, State or Federal.

We are also authorized by Mr. Atchison to return to his Democratic friends his sincere thanks for their firm and decided support, as well as to those gentlemen of the Whig party who honored him with their votes on several ballots for United States Senator.

We are further authorized by Mr. Atchison, to pledge him, as a citizen, to his zealous and untiring support of all our rights in the States and Territories.

Mr. Atchison will address his fellow-citizens on the subject of politics, at the courthouse in Platte City, on the first Monday in February next, at which time he will be pleased to see as many of his friends as can conveniently attend.

For the last twelve years Mr. Atchison has faithfully represented Missouri in the Senate of the United States. In him Missouri has been repeatedly honored with the presiding officer of the Senate. In that capacity Mr. A. won the confidence and esteem of all the Senators, for his honest and impartial conduct in the administration of the difficult and complex duties devolving upon him. His course as a Senator has been dignified and unimpeachable, and the people of Missouri now endorse it. Mr. A. was probably the first member of the Senate that made a move to repeal the Missouri Compromise, an act in violation of the Constitution and fraught with injury to the South. He put the ball in motion in the Senate for its repeal, and the perseverance of Douglas and others passed it through; and the day is near at hand when the whole people of this Union will vote to save their asset to the justice of the measure. And although Mr. Atchison has been denounced as a nullifier and disunionist, he is one of the most steadfast friends to the perpetuity of the Union, and the preservation of its institutions, that the country contains. Mr. Atchison is not—as has been often charged—ambitious. As a politician, he takes firm and decided ground, but he is not an office-seeker. He served his country at its call. He leaves the position which he occupies before the people, as candidate for the United States Senate, when his friends in the State and in the Legislature are in the plurality! He is no longer a candidate, and it remains to be seen whether those whom the people may concentrate upon hereafter, or who will acquire a position as strong as Mr. Atchison's will show the magnanimity and disinterestedness of him, in surrendering it up to the public good. If Mr. A. had been a stumbling block to a union of the democratic party, he is such no longer. As the choice of a large majority of the people he might well have continued in the contest as a candidate.

We do not pretend, in this short article, to do Mr. Atchison full justice. The task shall be performed by us hereafter. We shall be ready to vindicate him from the assaults of his enemies, and to defend his public acts from the attacks of his detractors. He will show the Senate while he is strong, and will demonstrate in it was almost certain to insure success. In looking to a successor where shall we find the bold, honest and independent man, the true politician, that he is, to fill his place.

In the defence of the rights of all the people of this confederacy, Mr. Atchison merits the lasting gratitude of his countrymen, to all succeeding generations.

From the Kansas Herald.

Letter of Gen. D. R. Atchison.

We call attention to the letter of Gen. Atchison. It will be seen that he gives the lie direct to the abolition charge, that Atchison had been in "consultation with Gov. Shannon," in reference to the recent disturbances in Kansas, and calling out of troops. As we said in a previous number of our paper, Gov. Shannon had no communication whatever with Gen. Atchison, and now we have it direct from Gen. A. himself, that he had no consultation or communication with Gov. Shannon directly or indirectly in person or by writing or in any other manner or form whatever. But such abolition papers as the St. Louis Missouri Democrat, had to connect Gen. Atchison's name with Gov. Shannon's movements for the purpose of making war upon Shannon and the pro-slavery party of the Territory. But the charge has gone the rounds of the abolition press, and we very much doubt whether any of them will ever correct the falsehood by publishing Gen. Atchison's letter. Gen. A. does not do it, so far as he is concerned, but it is only because Gov. Shannon's name is made use of, in a false manner with his own, that he has seen proper to stamp the charge as base coin. Falsehood is what the abolition press feed and fatten upon, they never tell the truth when a lie will answer their purpose as well. But to the letter:

PLATTE CITY, Mo., Dec. 27th, 1855.

EDITOR KANSAS HERALD.—DEAR SIR: In the Kansas Weekly Herald of the 15th instant, I have read certain persons, taken from the person of one Pomeroy, (either published or intended to be published,) it is said among other things altogether false that "Atchison had been in consultation with Gov. Shannon, &c."

In justice to Gov. Shannon I will now say that prior to my meeting with him at Wakarusa on the — day of December, I had no consultation with him directly or indirectly in person or by writing or in any other manner or form whatever. The Governor had no occasion for my advice, and did not ask it; nor am I the least to trust my opinions upon any person without being asked. Governor Shannon, however, in my opinion, has neglected the part of a firm and humane officer and man.

The short conference which I had with the Governor at Wakarusa he is at liberty to make public, and if necessary will no doubt do it, although of but little importance to any person whatever.

I would not now trouble you to publish this note on my account but I think it due to Gov. Shannon. I have not and will not respond to any abolition falsehoods which relate only to myself.

Your o' b' servant,

D. R. ATCHISON.

Two Baltimore physicians called from New York to attend to the late week.